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Tomoyuki Ohno

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EXAMINER

PARRY, CHRISTOPHER L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2614

DATE MAILED: 01/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/995,378	Applicant(s) OHNO, TOMOYUKI	
	Examiner Chris Parry	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 November 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. Figures 17-19, 20A, and 20B should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: On page 17, line 11, "**dame**" should be --**same**--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 26, 34, and 35 are objected to as failing to lack antecedent basis as the claims recite the limitation "**said selected second program**". For purposes of examination, the examiner will read the limitation to be "**a selected second program**".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-9, 13-21, 25-30, and 34-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Borden IV et al. "Borden" (U.S. 6,857,128).

Regarding Claim 1, Borden discloses EPG display system 170 or "displaying controlling apparatus" in figure 11, for controlling a display apparatus, which displays TV program information. Borden teaches, "receiving means for receiving program information on a plurality of programs" by disclosing CPU 172 receives schedule data 180 from an external source (Col. 5, lines 57-62). Borden teaches, "display control means for controlling so as to display first program information on said plurality of programs on the basis of the program information received by said receiving means on

Art Unit: 2614

display means" by disclosing video display generator 174 which, outputs a video-compatible EPG display (Col. 5, lines 43-67). Borden teaches, "selection means for selecting first program information relating to an arbitrary program in the first program information displayed on said display means" by disclosing user control means, such as infrared detector 176 to allow a user to control the system using remote control 184 as shown in figure 11 (Col. 5, lines 45-56). Borden teaches, "wherein said display control means controls so as to display second program information on a program relating to said first program information selected by said selection means, and controls so as to display the second program information on a plurality of said selected programs" by disclosing in response to display manipulation commands received from the user via remote control 184, CPU 172 will typically retrieve schedule information from system memory 178 and format this information appropriately before supplying it to video display generator 174. CPU 172 retrieves the information needed for the current display, e.g., program titles and details that are visible with the currently displayed range of timeslots and channel identifiers. CPU 172 then displays this information by generating a bitmap of formatted information and storing this bitmap to the VRAM in video display generator 174 (Col. 6, lines 12-33). The CPU 172 then presents an EPG display like the one shown in figure 4 which facilitates the viewer to see first and second program information by designating an area (program description area 76) for more information to be displayed.

As for Claim 2, Borden teaches, "wherein said second program information is information more detailed than said first program information" by disclosing in figure 4,

Art Unit: 2614

EPG display 70 which, comprises title 72 or “first program information” and program description area 80 or “second program information”, which contains additional information about the corresponding program title (Col. 4, lines 3-18).

As for Claim 3, Borden teaches, “wherein said second program information includes at least one piece of...information concerning contents of the program...” by disclosing program description area 80 contains a short description of the program’s content (Col. 4, lines 12-16).

As for Claim 4, Borden teaches, “wherein said first program information is displayed in the form of a program table indicating program titles with channel number information being a vertical axis (horizontal axis) and broadcasting time information on program being a horizontal axis (vertical axis)” by disclosing figure 4 which shows titles 72 and 78 or “first program information” listed in an EPG grid or “program table” with times and channel information.

As for Claim 5, Borden teaches, “wherein said display control means controls so as to display said first program information and second program information on a program relating to said first program information selected by said selection means on the same screen” by disclosing in response to display manipulation commands, CPU 172 will typically retrieve schedule information from system memory 178 and format this information appropriately before supplying it to video display generator 174. CPU 172 retrieves the information needed for the current display, e.g., program titles and details that are visible with the currently displayed range of timeslots and channel identifiers.

CPU 172 then displays this information by generating a bitmap of formatted information and storing this bitmap to the VRAM in video display generator 174 (Col. 6, lines 12-23).

As for Claim 6, Borden teaches, "wherein said selection means can select arbitrary first program information in a state that said second program information, and said display control means controls so as to display second program information relating to said further selected first program information on the same screen as said displayed second program information" by disclosing in response to display manipulation commands, CPU 172 will typically retrieve schedule information from system memory 178 and CPU 172 retrieves the information needed for the current display, e.g., program titles and details that are visible with the currently displayed range of timeslots and channel identifiers as shown in figure 4 (Col. 6, lines 12-23). Further, in figure 4, the selected cell 62 corresponds to the dashed lines and the selected title 72 or "first program information" is displayed along with program details 76 or "second program information" on the same screen.

As for Claim 7, Borden teaches, "wherein when selecting further arbitrary first program information by said selection means, said display control means controls so as to selectively display first program information on said plurality of programs so as not to eliminate a display of the first program information selected by said selection means" by disclosing in figure 4, program details area 76 or "second program information" is shown in a separate area from first program information so as to prevent blocking other program listings.

As for Claim 8, Borden teaches, "wherein said display control means controls so as to fixedly display said second program information to an arbitrary area in said screen and so as to selectively display said first program information in said screen" by disclosing in figure 4, second program information is fixedly displayed in program details area 76 which displays more detailed information on the selected first program (Col. 4, lines 3-19).

As for Claim 9, Borden teaches, "after fixedly displaying said second program information in said arbitrary area, said display control means displays second program information relating to a program of the first program information selected by said selection means selectively in accordance with the selection operation and adjacent to said selected first program information" by disclosing in figure 4, after the user selects to display program description 82 or "second program information" related to title 78, the user can move the cursor to select another program, such as title 72 or "first program information" and display program description 80 or "second program information" is further displayed adjacent to program description 82.

Regarding Claim 13, Borden discloses an EPG browsing system and method for a display apparatus, which display TV program information (Abstract). Borden teaches "the receiving step of receiving program information on a plurality of programs" by disclosing CPU 172 receives schedule data 180 from an external source as shown in figure 11 (Col. 5, lines 59-62). Borden teaches, "the display control step of controlling so as to display first program information on said plurality of programs on the basis of said received program information on display means" by disclosing in response to display

Art Unit: 2614

manipulation commands, CPU 172 will typically retrieve schedule information from system memory 178 and format this information appropriately before supplying it to video display generator 174. CPU 172 retrieves the information needed for the current display, e.g., program titles and details that are visible with the currently displayed range of timeslots and channel identifiers. CPU 172 then displays this information by generating a bitmap of formatted information and storing this bitmap to the VRAM in video display generator 174 (Col. 6, lines 12-33). Borden teaches, "the selecting step of selecting first program information relating to an arbitrary program in the first program information displayed on said display means" by disclosing user control means, such as infrared detector 176 to allow a user to control the system using remote control 184 as shown in figure 11 to select and highlight programs on the EPG display (Col. 5, lines 45-56). Borden teaches, "wherein said display control step controls so as to display second program information on a program relating to said selected first program information, and controls so as to display the second program information on a plurality of said selected programs" by disclosing in response to display manipulation commands received from the user via remote control 184, CPU 172 will typically retrieve schedule information from system memory 178 and format this information appropriately before supplying it to video display generator 174. CPU 172 retrieves the information needed for the current display, e.g., program titles and details that are visible with the currently displayed range of timeslots and channel identifiers. CPU 172 then displays this information by generating a bitmap of formatted information and storing this bitmap to the VRAM in video display generator 174 (Col. 6, lines 12-33). The CPU 172 then

presents an EPG display like the one shown in figure 4 which facilitates the viewer to see first and second program information by designating an area (program description area 76) for more information to be displayed.

Considering Claim 14, the claimed elements of wherein said second program information is information more detailed than said first program information, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 2, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claims 15 and 27, the claimed elements of wherein said second program information includes at least one piece of...information concerning contents of the program..., corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 3, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claims 16 and 28, the claimed elements of wherein said first program information is displayed in the form of a program table indicating program titles with channel number information being a vertical axis (horizontal axis) and broadcasting time information on program being a horizontal axis (vertical axis), corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 4, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claim 17, the claimed elements of wherein said display control step controls so as to display said first program information and second program information on a program relating to said first program information selected by said selecting step on the same screen, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 5, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claim 18, the claimed elements of wherein said selecting step can select arbitrary first program information in a state that said second program information, and said display control step controls so as to display second program information relating to said further selected first program information on the same screen as said displayed second program information, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 6, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claim 19, the claimed elements of wherein when selecting further arbitrary first program information by said selecting step, said display control step controls so as to selectively display first program information on said plurality of programs so as not to eliminate a display of the first program information selected by said selecting step, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 7, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claims 20 and 29, the claimed elements of wherein said display control step controls so as to fixedly display said second program information to an arbitrary area in said screen and so as to selectively display said first program information in said screen, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 8, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claims 21 and 30, the claimed elements of wherein after fixedly displaying said second program information in said arbitrary area, said display control step displays second program information relating to a program of the first program information selected by said selecting step selectively in accordance with the selection

operation and adjacent to said selected first program information, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 9, and is likewise treated.

Regarding Claim 25, Borden discloses CPU 172 and system memory 178 or "storage medium" for storing program data (Col. 5, lines 43-62). Borden teaches "the receiving step of receiving program information on a plurality of programs" by disclosing CPU 172 receives schedule data 180 from an external source as shown in figure 11 (Col. 5, lines 59-62). Borden teaches, "the display control step of controlling so as to display first program information on said plurality of programs on the basis of said received program information on display means" by disclosing in response to display manipulation commands, CPU 172 will typically retrieve schedule information from system memory 178 and format this information appropriately before supplying it to video display generator 174. CPU 172 retrieves the information needed for the current display, e.g., program titles and details that are visible with the currently displayed range of timeslots and channel identifiers. CPU 172 then displays this information by generating a bitmap of formatted information and storing this bitmap to the VRAM in video display generator 174 (Col. 6, lines 12-33). Borden teaches, "the selecting step of selecting first program information relating to an arbitrary program in the first program information displayed on said display means" by disclosing user control means, such as infrared detector 176 to allow a user to control the system using remote control 184 as shown in figure 11 to select and highlight programs on the EPG display (Col. 5, lines 45-56). Borden teaches, "wherein said display control step controls so as to display second program information on a program relating to said selected first program

information, and controls so as to display the second program information on a plurality of said selected programs” by disclosing in response to display manipulation commands received from the user via remote control 184, CPU 172 will typically retrieve schedule information from system memory 178 and format this information appropriately before supplying it to video display generator 174. CPU 172 retrieves the information needed for the current display, e.g., program titles and details that are visible with the currently displayed range of timeslots and channel identifiers. CPU 172 then displays this information by generating a bitmap of formatted information and storing this bitmap to the VRAM in video display generator 174 (Col. 6, lines 12-33). The CPU 172 then presents an EPG display like the one shown in figure 4 which facilitates the viewer to see first and second program information by designating an area (program description area 76) for more information to be displayed.

Regarding Claim 26, Borden discloses an EPG display system 170 or “display controlling apparatus” in figure 11. Borden teaches, “receiving means for receiving television signals including EPG (Electronic Program Guide) data indicating program information on a plurality of programs” by disclosing CPU 172 receives schedule data 180 (e.g., program start/stop times, channel identifier, program details) from an external source, and stores this data to system memory 178 (Col. 5, lines 59-62). Borden teaches, “output means for outputting program table data for list-displaying program information relating to said plurality of programs on the basis of the EPG data received by said receiving means, to display means” by disclosing video display generator 174 or “output means” in figure 11, which outputs a video-compatible EPG display (Col. 5, line

43 – Col. 6, line 33). Borden teaches, “selection means for selecting program information relating to an arbitrary program from a list display of the program information displayed on said display means” by disclosing remote control 184 in figure 11, which can be used by the viewer to manipulate the EPG to retrieve schedule information (Col. 5, line 43 – Col. 6, line 23). Borden discloses “display control means for controlling said display means so as to display detailed program information relating to the program of the program information on the same screen as the list display of said program information in accordance with a selection operation by said selection means” by disclosing CPU 172 in figure 11, which in response to commands received from the user, CPU 172 retrieves program schedule information and formats the information and supplies the program schedule to the video display generator 174 (Col. 6, lines 12-23). Borden further teaches, “wherein in a state that detailed program information relating to the first program selected by said selection means is displayed by said display means, said selection means can further select program information relating to an arbitrary program in the program information relating to said plurality of programs, and said display control means controls so as to display detailed program information relating to said selected second program on the same screen as the detailed program information relating to said first program” by disclosing in figure 4, detailed program information relating to the first program selected is displayed in program details area 76 in program description area 82. Further in figure 4, the user can select an arbitrary program, for example title 72, and additional information related to title 72 will be displayed in

program details area 76 in program description area 80, which is displayed on the same screen as the program description area 82 for title 78.

Regarding Claim 34, Borden discloses an EPG browsing system and method for operating an EPG display system (Abstract). Borden teaches, "receiving television signals including EPG (Electronic Program Guide) data indicating program information on a plurality of programs" by disclosing CPU 172 receives schedule data 180 (e.g., program start/stop times, channel identifier, program details) from an external source, and stores this data to system memory 178 (Col. 5, lines 59-62). Borden teaches, "outputting program table data for list-displaying program information relating to said plurality of programs on the basis of said received EPG data, to display means" by disclosing video display generator 174 or "output means" in figure 11, which outputs a video-compatible EPG display (Col. 5, line 43 – Col. 6, line 33). Borden teaches, "selecting program information relating to an arbitrary program from a list display of the program information displayed on said display means" by disclosing remote control 184 in figure 11, which can be used by the viewer to manipulate the EPG to retrieve schedule information (Col. 5, line 43 – Col. 6, line 23). Borden discloses, "controlling said display means so as to display detailed program information relating to the program of the program information on the same screen as the list display of said program information in accordance with said selection operation" by disclosing CPU 172 in figure 11, which in response to commands received from the user, CPU 172 retrieves program schedule information and formats the information and supplies the program schedule to the video display generator 174 (Col. 6, lines 12-23). Borden further

teaches, “in a state that detailed program information relating to said selected first program is displayed by said display means, capable of selecting program information relating to an arbitrary program in the program information relating to said plurality of programs, controlling said display means so as to display detailed program information relating to said selected second program on the same screen as the detailed program information relating to said first program” by disclosing in figure 4, detailed program information relating to the first program selected is displayed in program details area 76 in program description area 82. Further in figure 4, the user can select an arbitrary program, for example title 72, and additional information related to title 72 will be displayed in program details area 76 in program description area 80, which is displayed on the same screen as the program description area 82 for title 78.

Regarding Claim 35, Borden discloses CPU 172 and memory 178 or “storage medium” for storing program data for executing an EPG display (Col. 5, line 43 – Col. 6, line 33). Borden teaches, “receiving television signals including EPG (Electronic Program Guide) data indicating program information on a plurality of programs” by disclosing CPU 172 receives schedule data 180 (e.g., program start/stop times, channel identifier, program details) from an external source, and stores this data to system memory 178 (Col. 5, lines 59-62). Borden teaches, “outputting program table data for list-displaying program information relating to said plurality of programs on the basis of said received EPG data, to display means” by disclosing video display generator 174 or “output means” in figure 11, which outputs a video-compatible EPG display (Col. 5, line 43 – Col. 6, line 33). Borden teaches, “selecting program information relating to an

Art Unit: 2614

arbitrary program from a list display of the program information displayed on said display means" by disclosing remote control 184 in figure 11, which can be used by the viewer to manipulate the EPG to retrieve schedule information (Col. 5, line 43 – Col. 6, line 23). Borden discloses, "controlling said display means so as to display detailed program information relating to the program of the program information on the same screen as the list display of said program information in accordance with said selection operation" by disclosing CPU 172 in figure 11, which in response to commands received from the user, CPU 172 retrieves program schedule information and formats the information and supplies the program schedule to the video display generator 174 (Col. 6, lines 12-23). Borden further teaches, "in a state that detailed program information relating to said selected first program is displayed by said display means, capable of selecting program information relating to an arbitrary program in the program information relating to said plurality of programs, controlling said display means so as to display detailed program information relating to said selected second program on the same screen as the detailed program information relating to said first program" by disclosing in figure 4, detailed program information relating to the first program selected is displayed in program details area 76 in program description area 82. Further in figure 4, the user can select an arbitrary program, for example title 72, and additional information related to title 72 will be displayed in program details area 76 in program description area 80, which is displayed on the same screen as the program description area 82 for title 78.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 10-12, 22-24, and 31-33 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Borden in view of Klosterman (U.S. 6,072,983).

As for Claim 10, Borden teaches, "wherein said receiving means receives program information relating to programs..." by disclosing CPU 172 receives schedule data 180 from an external source (Col. 5, lines 43-56). Borden teaches, "said display control means controls so as to display a plurality of pieces of said second program information relating to programs..." by disclosing CPU 172 formats schedule data 180 and video display generator 174 outputs a video-compatible EPG display (Col. 5, line 43 – Col. 6, line 23). However, Borden fails to explicitly disclose receiving program information relating to programs transmitted by different transmission paths, and displaying a plurality of pieces of said second program information relating to programs transmitted by different transmission paths. In a related art pertaining to video distribution, Klosterman discloses a system that combines schedule information from broadcast, cable, and satellite and displays an integrated schedule 50 on the user's television. Klosterman discloses in figure 1B coordinator 20 receives schedule data

from cable box 26, IRD box 28, and other inputs 30. The information received from the plurality of sources is used to create a program schedule for the user as shown in figure 3 by integrated schedule 50. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Borden with Klosterman in order to receive program information relating to programs transmitted by different transmission paths and displaying the program information relating to the programs transmitted on the different transmission paths because a more versatile technique is needed to combine program information received from different transmission paths rather than have the user switch between multiple input units (Klosterman – Background).

As for Claim 11, Borden teaches, “wherein said display control means controls so as to fixedly display said second program information in an arbitrary area in said screen...” by disclosing in figure 4, program details area 76 comprises program description 80 for selected title 72 or “first program information”. Borden discloses displaying additional information on two different programs in program details area however, Borden fails to explicitly disclose selectively displaying first program information on a program transmitted by a transmission path different from the program of the displayed second program information in the screen. In a related art pertaining to video distribution, Klosterman discloses integrated grid guide 50, which combines schedule data from satellite and cable and includes a defined information window at the top or bottom of the screen to display additional information associated with a particular show (Col. 8, lines 5-24). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill

Art Unit: 2614

in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Borden with the teachings of Klosterman in order to facilitate displaying additional information from one transmission path while viewing first program information from another transmission path for the benefit of a more versatile schedule that combines program information received from different transmission paths and display additional information regarding a particular program, rather than have the user switch between reading information on one input unit and switching to another input unit to read additional information regarding another program (Klosterman – Background).

As for Claim 12, Borden teaches, “wherein said transmission paths include at least one of...digital television broadcasting by cable transmission...” by disclosing in figure 12, cable decoder 192 receives a TV signal In 188 in the form of a cable broadcast signal (Col. 6, lines 34-42).

Considering Claim 22, the claimed elements wherein said receiving step receives program information concerning programs transmitted by different transmission paths, and said display control step controls so as to display a plurality of pieces of said second program information relating to programs transmitted by said different transmission paths, respectively, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 10, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claim 23, the claimed elements of wherein said display control step controls so as to fixedly display said second program information in an arbitrary area in said screen and so as to selectively display first program information on a program transmitted by a transmission path different from the program of the displayed second

program information in said screen, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 11, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claims 24 and 33, the claimed elements of wherein said transmission paths include at least one of...digital television broadcasting by cable transmission..., corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 12, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claim 31, the claimed elements of wherein said receiving means receives EPG data relating to programs transmitted by different transmission paths, and said display control means controls so as to display a plurality of pieces of said detailed program information relating to programs transmitted by said different transmission paths, respectively, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 10, and is likewise treated.

Considering Claim 32, the claimed elements of wherein said display control means controls so as to fixedly display said detailed program information in an arbitrary area in said screen and so as to selectively display program information on a program transmitted by a transmission path different from the program of the displayed detailed program information in said screen, corresponds with subject matter mentioned above in the rejection of claim 11, and is likewise treated.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to displaying additional information in an EPG.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,025,837 to Matthews III et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,732,371 to Lee et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,564,378 to Satterfield et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,793,438 to Bedard

U.S. Pat. No. 5,630,119 to Aristides et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,426,779 to Noguchi et al.

The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to combining EPG data from a plurality of sources.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,305,018 to Usui et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,526,576 to Kwoh

Inter. Pub. No. WO/9935849 to Wugofski

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chris Parry whose telephone number is (571) 272-8328. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.


Art Unit: 2614

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Miller can be reached on (571) 272-7353. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiners Initials:
January 3, 2006

CLP


Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2614